

# DCSA Minutes

12<sup>th</sup> January 2006

<b><u>Present</u></b>	Katie Tanner (KT)	President
	Melanie Keene (MK)	Treasurer
	Rosienne Farrugia (RF)	Secretary
	Caren Weinberg (CW)	Womens
	Will Flynn (WF)	Council Rep
	Patrick Boner (PB)	Sports
	Nico Petty (NPy)	Welfare
	Robin Usher (RU)	LBGT

<b><u>Apologies</u></b>	Claudia Crovace (CC)	Ents
	Su Il In (SI)	Council Rep
	Scott Shackelford (SS)	International
	Nicky Pickering (NP)	Ents
	Sarah Hamylton (SH)	Green
	Joab Rosenberg (JR)	Comms

---

## *Darwin Lecture series*

Will start on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January. RF will send out an email to the DCSA members asking them to sign up for ushering duties  
CW volunteered for Friday 20<sup>th</sup>.

## *Bike Scheme*

During last year's bike scheme a number of registered bikes were taken and sold or used for spare parts. A student who was away and has now returned found the bike still on the property but missing the seat, brakes etc. Fixing the bike costs £50. Since the bike was registered, the DCSA decided to reimburse cost on receipt.

## *LBGT issues*

RU reported to the rest of the committee 2 issues he has with CUSU LBGT

- 1) CUSU LBGT exec (exec) organised a film night in Darwin. The TV room was booked by a Darwin member. The exec did not inform RU, who is the CUSU LBGT rep for Darwin. On learning of the event, RU informed the exec that the main door in Darwin is locked at 8.30pm and someone should therefore be at the door to let in guests who arrived later than that. The exec were very dismissive of the idea and not particularly caring of people who might turn up for the event and find nobody to let them in. RU was not pleased with their dismissive attitude and lack of caring, welcome or availability.

- 1) In an official communication sent by the CUSU LBGT to its college reps promiscuous language was used. This official communication was sent to a whole list of people some of whom might object to the very strong language used. This is the communication sent at the start of term to tell college reps what is on this term and as guidelines to LBGT members of the university on what the LBGT community will be doing this term.  
RU has lodged a complaint with the CUSU LBGT exec asking them to look into this communication.

#### *LBGT events*

A small, low key event will be organised on Thursday the 19<sup>th</sup> of January for LBGT members. Meeting will be at the p'lodge followed by drinks at a pub. The event will be used to gauge response in preparation for the organisation of a larger event later in the term.

#### *Digital Camera*

Jessica Schicks has informed the DCSA that the digital camera is missing a cable. The cable will need to be replaced. KT will ask the computer officer for advice.

#### *Ironing Facilities in College*

Lydia Bell has asked that better ironing facilities be installed in the college laundry. She has approached the housekeeper who suggested she ask the DCSA to organise a full size iron and ironing board to be used in the laundry room. KT will talk to the bursar and the CoW and see if the college is willing to pay for the iron and the DCSA will organise its purchase, installation and signing out procedures. If the college will not fund the iron the DCSA will take a final decision on buying it. The iron will be left in the p'lodge and signed out by students who wish to use it.

#### *Issues for the Buildings and Grounds Committee Meeting*

RF has been asked to raise the following issues at the next B&G meeting:

##### Laundry facilities

- 1) Of the 3 washing machines on the main site, one is always out of order. It has been out of order for the last 3 months. It is always the same machine which is out of order
- 1) Even 3 functioning washing machines are not enough for all the people on the main site, the old granary, newnham terrace, and barton road, the apartments as well as the college housekeeping. Thus if one machine is broken even for 1 day it will impact heavily on the availability of facilities.
- 1) If the machine has been broken for 3 months then the company renting them out should see to it that it is fixed as soon as possible. If the machine has been fixed and is breaking down each week then this machine should be replaced because there is obviously something very wrong with it.

##### Basement rooms of NT

- 1) Habitability
- 1) Costlier than other rooms in the same house

##### Furniture in college accomodation

- Complaints received from students  
Any plans for gradual replacement of furniture.

### *Ents*

Bop organised for Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> January from 9pm to 1am.

Burns Night – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January. Formal hall followed by a ceilidh. KT will try to find volunteers to read the poetry during formal. The DCSA will pay for their dinner.

Bar cellar. CC and the CoW are emptying out the bar cellar of all the broken equipment that was ruined in the flood.

Valentine's day. NP is organising a speed dating session for valentine's day.

Wine tasting. 2 wine tasting sessions are being organised with the help of Kate Kenny from BarCom. The first will be on the 9<sup>th</sup> of February. The date for the second session will be determined later.

Unplugged Event for Amnesty International is being organised. CC is in touch with Jenny. The event will be an open mike night targeted mainly at Darwin member. Mike (bar chair) asked that it not be held on a Friday night.

### *Recital by David Earl*

Chester White informed the DCSA of a recital by David Earl will be held on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> February in the dining hall from 6pm to 11pm. Admittance is free. All Darwin members are encouraged to attend. The event will be brought to the attention of all members.

### *Table tennis Club*

MK reports that a group of people would like to set up a table tennis club. Their application was too late for the budget and so was discussed during this meeting. The club asked for £550. £200 requested for T-shirts and £200 requested for promotional material such as posters were not allocated. The club will get £150 which is what all new clubs received in this year's budget.

### *DCBC application for a DCSA investment Scheme*

MK explained the scheme: DCSA has a savings account. The money which has accumulated in this account is used for big projects like the refurbishment of the TV room and gym last year. This year with the budget applications MK asked members to submit ideas for projects to use this money. MK got only 2 responses

- 1) The football club asked for a set of portable goals
- 2) The boat club (DCBC) asked for money to start an Alumini club

Originally the application of the DCBC asked for the money as a seed fund to start off the alumini club by going for a spring break abroad to do some rowing as well as building stronger ties within the club members.

The DCSA gives a lot of money to the DCBC, and paying for a spring break for 1 particular club will not be seen as fair by the other clubs. The DCSA cannot afford to send all the clubs on spring break and thus would not like to set a precedent.

MK and KT will send a joint email response to the boat club detailing our discussion and the reasons we are unable to assist with their scheme at the present time.

### *GU annual report*

Copies of the GU annual report have been received. Copies will be made available on the DCSA noticeboard and in the reading room.

### *Council rep report*

In last term's council meeting the council determined that band practices on Sunday should be limited to 2 slots of 2 hours each. No block bookings will be accepted. Bookings will only be taken 1 week in advance. In order to book the Darwin common room, at least 2 members of the band need to be Darwinians.

Council also discussed the idea of holding an open day at the start of the academic year during which time talks will be given to students regarding issues such as security.

RU suggested organising college tours focusing on the artistic and architectural features of the college to be held during open days.

Tours can also be organised for later in the year together with talks from the college archivist (?) describing the treasures found in college – such as the portraits etc. Some time in April, followed or preceded by refreshments provided by the DCSA would be ideal.

### *DCSA awareness*

The DCSA notes that we need to raise awareness amongst the students regarding what the role of the DCSA is, what the DCSA does for the students as well as encourage students to get involved in the DCSA. Various proposals were put forward

- 1) At the times of DCSA elections, hold cocktail parties or weekend afternoon tea or garden parties to advertise the elections and encourage people both to stand for positions as well as to vote.
- 2) To raise awareness of the DCSA put together a poster of who the current members are (pictures) and what is the role of each officer.
- 3) Send out a whatsapp message at the start of term.
- 4) Organising a DCSA social.

### *Next DCSA Project*

Refurbishment of the DCSA office. RF And CW have volunteered to co-ordinate this project. Once refurbished, the office can also be used as an extra meeting room or supervision room.

### *Speakers' Series for Graduate Women in Cambridge*

CW is discussing the organisation of the series of talks with the women's officer of Wolfson College. CW would like to organise the first talk in February.

**Next meeting: Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2006 at 7.00pm in the Old Library**

**Open meeting: Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2006 at 8.00pm in the Bar**